



## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Office of Workers' Compensation Programs

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Overpayment Recovery Questionnaire (OWCP-20)

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor (DOL) is soliciting comments concerning a proposed revision for the authority to conduct the information collection request (ICR) titled, "Overpayment Recovery Questionnaire (OWCP-20). This comment request is part of continuing Departmental efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA).

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all written comments received by **[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

**ADDRESSES:** A copy of this ICR with applicable supporting documentation, including a description of the likely respondents, proposed frequency of response, and estimated total burden may be obtained free by contacting Anjanette Suggs by telephone at 202-354-9660 or by email at [suggs.anjanette@dol.gov](mailto:suggs.anjanette@dol.gov).

Submit written comments about, or requests for a copy of, this ICR by mail or courier to the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, Room S3323, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210; by email: [suggs.anjanette@dol.gov](mailto:suggs.anjanette@dol.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** Contact Anjanette Suggs by telephone at 202-354-9660 or by email at [suggs.anjanette@dol.gov](mailto:suggs.anjanette@dol.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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Submit written comments about, or requests for a copy of, this ICR by mail or courier to the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, Room S3323, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210; by email: [suggs.anjanette@dol.gov](mailto:suggs.anjanette@dol.gov).

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The DOL, as part of continuing efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information before submitting them to the OMB for final approval. This program helps to ensure requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements can be properly assessed.

*I. Background:* The Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) is the agency responsible for administration of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA), 5 U.S.C. 8101, the Black Lung Benefits Act (BLBA), 30 U.S.C. 901, and the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA), 42 U.S.C. 7384. This information collection is used by OWCP examiners to ascertain the financial condition of the beneficiary to determine if the overpayment or any part can be recovered; to identify the possible concealment or improper transfer of assets; and to identify and consider present and potential income and current assets for enforced

collection proceedings. The questionnaire provides a means for the beneficiary to explain why he/she is without fault in an overpayment matter. If this information were not collected BLBA, EEOICPA and FECA would have little basis to determine appropriate collection proceedings. This information collection is currently approved for use through July 31, 2022.

This information collection is subject to the PRA. A Federal agency generally cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information, and the public is generally not required to respond to an information collection, unless the OMB under the PRA approves it and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information that does not display a valid Control Number. See 5 CFR 1320.5(b) and 1320.6.

Interested parties are encouraged to provide comments to the contact shown in the ADDRESSES section. Written comments will receive consideration, and be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval of the final ICR. In order to help ensure appropriate consideration, comments should mention OMB Number 1240-0051.

Submitted comments will also be a matter of public record for this ICR and posted on the internet, without redaction. The DOL encourages commenters not to include personally identifiable information, confidential business data, or other sensitive statements/information in any comments.

The DOL is particularly interested in comments that:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions

used;

- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to

respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g. permitting electronic submission of responses.

Type of Review: Extension

Agency: Office of Workers' Compensation Programs

Title: Overpayment Recovery Questionnaire

OMB Number: 1240-0051

Agency Number: OWCP-20

Affected Public: Individuals and households

Total Respondents: 6,031

Total Responses: 6,031

Time per Response: 1 hour

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 6,031

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): \$0

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): 54,720

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

**Anjanette Suggs,**

*Agency Clearance Officer,*

*Office of Workers' Compensation Programs,*

*US Department of Labor.*

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